1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Jammu and Kashmir	248.4	248.0	260.0	253.0	474.4	444.0	492.2	474.0
Jharkhand	63.0	58.0	84.3	86.0	150.0	77.7	128.9	130.0
Karnataka	242.0	253.0	269.0	273.0	179.0	217.0	205.0	241.0
Madhya Pradesh	4136.2	3692.8	3992.8	3742.0	7176.6	5957.7	7325.9	6267.0
Maharashtra	756.0	933.0	1231.0	1254.0	1016.0	1300.0	1631.1	2081.0
Meghalaya	0.9	0.7	0.6	#	1.6	1.2	1.2	#
Nagaland	8.2	1.2	1.5	#	13.0	1.9	1.3	#
Orissa	4.0	3.3	3.9	8.0	5.0	4.5	5.8	11.0
Punjab	3482.0	3468.0	3467.0	3494.0	14698.0	14493.0	14596.0	15744.0
Rajasthan	2010.1	2123.9	2564.8	2592.0	5706.6	5865.3	7055.8	7125.0
Sikkim	5.7	6.5	6.5	#	8.3	9.0	9.0	#
Tripura	1.1	1.1	1.0	#	2.8	2.9	1.8	#
Uttar Pradesh	8999.8	9163.9	9197.6	9115.0	22513.9	24073.8	25031.0	25432.0
Uttaranchal	394.0	395.0	391.0	397.0	803.0	645.0	801.0	707.0
West Bengal	400.1	366.7	350.6	353.0	841.5	773.5	799.9	820.0
Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0.6	0.6	0.6	#	1.1	1.1	1.1	#
Delhi	18.0	18.3	17.9	#	71.0	79.4	77.7	#
Others	NA	NA	NA	43	NA	NA	NA	121.0
All India	26382.9	26483.6	27994.5	28153.0	68636.9	69354.5	75806.7	78401.0

*4th Advance Estimates released on 09.07.2008

#Included in others

NA: Not Applicable

Suicides committed by farmers

14. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of suicides committed by farmers on the basis of the agricultural products they grew, like cotton, rice, wheat, etc., in the year 2007-08; and

(b) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) A statement indicating the number of suicides committed by farmers during the year 2007-08, as reported by the State Government is enclosed (*See* below). No report

regarding the number of suicides committed by farmers on the basis of the agricultural products grown by them has been received from the State Governments. As the farmers grow more than one crop in a season and the cropping sequence changes season-wise, it may not be possible to categorize farmers on the basis of the agricultural products.

(b) To address the problem of suicides by farmers, the Government of India in September, 2006, approved a rehabilitation package of Rs. 16978.69 crore for 31 Districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala reporting comparatively higher number of suicides by farmers. The package includes both immediate and medium term measures. The rehabilitation package aims at establishing a sustainable and viable farming and livelihood support system through debt relief to farmers, improved supply of institutional credit, crop centric approach to agriculture, assured irrigation facilities, watershed management, better extension and farming support services and subsidiary income opportunities through horticulture, livestock, dairying, fisheries etc. An amount of Rs. 11463.49 crore (about 67.51% of total package cost) has been released by Central/State Governments and Banks under the package up to 30.06.2008.

In addition, for revitalization of agriculture sector, Government approved the National Policy for Farmers, 2007 which, *Inter-alia*, aims to improve economic viability of farming by substantially increasing the net income of the farmers. The Policy provisions *Inter-alia*, include, asset reforms in respect of land, water, livestock, fisheries and bio-resources; support services and inputs like application of frontier technologies for improving productivity in a sustainable manner; agricultural bio-security system; supply of good-quality seeds and disease-free planting material; improvement of soil health; integrated nutrient and pest management system and improvement in marketing infrastructure etc.

Besides, Government has launched two new Schemes namely, National Food Security Mission to improve production and productivity of foodgrains and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana with an objective to incentivise the states so as to increase public investment in agriculture and allied sector. An Agricultural debt waiver and debt relief scheme was also announced in the Union Budget 2008-09 to address the problem of indebtedness of farmers across the country.

Statement

Cases of suicide by farmers as per reports received from State Govts.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Period	No. (Based on the figures reported by State Govts.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2007 (upto 30.09.2007)	142
2.	Karnataka	2007-08	342

1	2	3	4
3.	Maharashtra	2007	1985
		2008 (upto 31.01.2008)	110
4.	Punjab	2007-08	18
5.	Kerala	2007 (upto 31.10.2007)	64
6.	Gujarat	2007	103
		2008 (upto March, 2008)	10
7.	Tamil Nadu	2000-2007 (up to March 2007)	26

NB: Other States and all Union Territories have reported 'nil' information relating to suicide by farmers.

Performance of National Fisheries Development Board

15. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of the National Fisheries Development Board so far and the status of the Blue Revolution Plan; and

(b) the steps taken by NFDB for the fishing industry in Karnataka and Kerala, in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) The National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB) has embarked upon blue revolution through several programmes and schemes for development of fisheries and aquaculture in the country. It has so far provided financial support to the extent of Rupees 68.82 crore for implementation of schemes such as (i) Intensive Aquaculture in ponds and tanks, (ii) stocking of reservoirs, (iii) post harvest and marketing infrastructure, (iv) coastal aquaculture, (v) training, (vi) deep sea fishing etc.

(b) NFDB, through its programmes, has released an amount of Rupees 8.89 crore and Rupees 3.12 crore for fisheries sector in the states of Karnataka and Kerala respectively. The major activities undertaken in these states are (i) establishment of domestic marketing infrastructure, (ii) seed production, (iii) freshwater aquaculture including prawn farming, (iv) ornamental fisheries, (v) reservoir development, (vi) training and demonstration etc.

Suicides by farmers despite loan waiver by Government

16. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that suicides by farmers continue unabated even after the announcement of loan waiver in the annual budget;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the measures taken by Government in this regard?